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Margaret Chivers of Helena donates Collins Land Co. papers to UM

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6-6-74
state + csMARGARET CHIVERS OF HELENA DONATES
COLLINS LAND CO. PAPERS TO UM

MISSOULA--

Mrs. Margaret Chivers, Helena, president of the Collins Land Co., has given an 18-foot stack of the company's papers to the University of Montana Library Archives, Library Archivist Dale L. Johnson has announced.

The gift includes correspondence carried on by the land company, which was founded in 1899 by the late Jeremiah Collins, a native of Ireland who was editor of the Fort Benton River Press, Fort Benton, from 1881-87 and publisher of The Great Falls Tribune, Great Falls, from 1887-94.

When Collins first founded the firm, it dealt primarily in public land business, buying and selling land scrips and representing clients before the Department of Interior on any kind of public land business. The company, which now deals almost exclusively in insurance, will cease to exist when its corporate charter expires at the end of this year.

Jeremiah Collins died in 1934, and his late son, Ted Collins, ran the Collins Land Co.'s home office in Helena until the latter's death in 1956. Jeremiah Collins graduated from Indiana State University, Terre Haute, in 1875 and he came to Montana in 1881.

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